



U.S. Department of Justice
Community Relations Service

Community Relations Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

America's Peacemaker

conciliate | mediate | facilitate | educate

Source: Shutterstock: 742602847

Agenda

► What is CRS?

► Is a CRS forum right for your community?



Hate Crimes Forum



Protecting Places of Worship Forum

► How can CRS help your community prevent or respond to escalating tension?



School-SPIRIT



City-SPIRIT

► Questions and Answers



What is **CRS** ?

COMMUNITY
RELATIONS
SERVICE

Created by Title X of the
Civil Rights Act of 1964

CRS, a U.S. Department of Justice
agency, is the Federal government's

“peacemaker”

for community conflicts and
tensions arising from differences
of race, color, and national origin.

Photo: President Lyndon Baines Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1964, surrounded by civil rights and congressional leaders. Taken from the 2015 Annual Report.



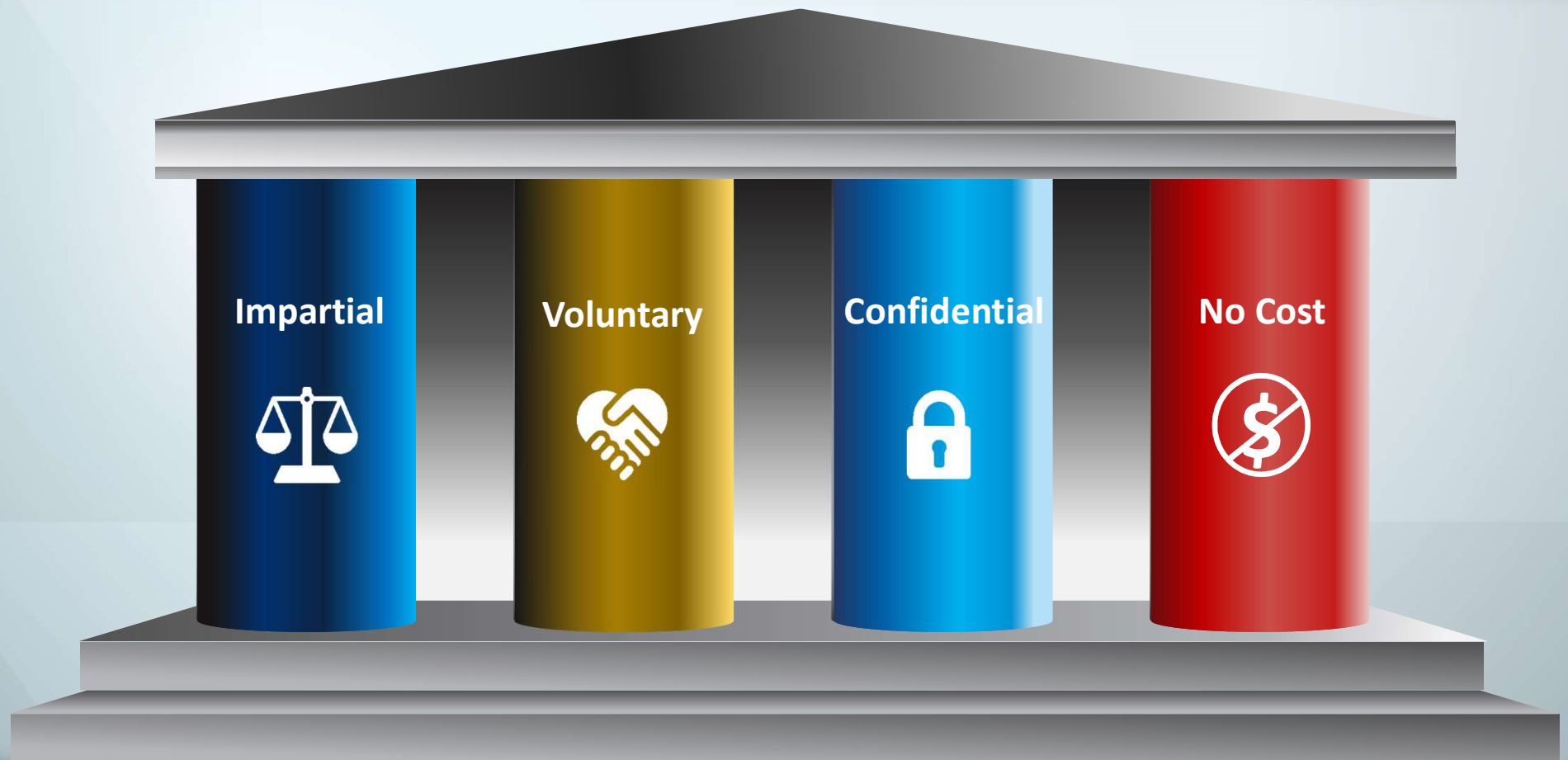


What is **CRS** COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE ?

Services expanded under the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009, CRS acts to prevent and respond to violent hate crimes:

- Gender
- Gender Identity
- Sexual Orientation
- Religion
- Disability
- Race
- Color
- National Origin

Foundational Values of CRS Services



CRS Services

► Facilitation

Guided process that bring parties together to clarify information, identify issues, and develop solutions



► Mediation

Structured, problem-solving process that develops agreements between parties



► Consultation

Technical assistance, best practices, models, and evidence-based resources



Photos: Shutterstock 76419184; 108822983; Group marching (CRS); Dr. King marching (CRS)

► Training

Knowledge or skills-based programs



Who We Work With



CRS Service Areas



Administration of Justice

- Police-community relations
- Controversial incidents
- Alleged bias or hate incidents/crimes



Education

- Intergroup tensions in schools
- Alleged bias or hate incidents/crimes in schools
- Alleged bullying



General Community Relations

- Demographic shifts
- Language-based conflicts
- Public demonstrations or controversial events
- Alleged bias or hate incidents/crimes

CRS Programs

Administration of Justice

- ▶ Law Enforcement and the Transgender Community
- ▶ Strengthening Police and Community Partnerships (SPCP)
- ▶ Engaging and Building Partnerships with Muslim Americans
- ▶ Engaging and Building Partnerships with Sikh Americans
- ▶ Customized Information and Education Sessions



Education

- ▶ **School-Student Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (School-SPIRIT)**
- ▶ Campus-Site Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (Campus-SPIRIT)
- ▶ Customized Information and Education Sessions



General Community Relations

- ▶ **City-Site Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (City-SPIRIT)**
- ▶ **Protecting Places of Worship**
- ▶ Dialogue on Race
- ▶ **Bias Incidents and Hate Crimes Forums**
- ▶ Customized Information and Education Sessions



CRS Services After a Critical Incident

Oak Creek, Wisconsin

- August 2012
- White supremacist killed 6 Sikh worshipers, and wounded 3 others, at the Sikh Temple of Wisconsin

▶ Training

- Facilitated Sikh and Muslim community awareness trainings

▶ Facilitation

- Facilitated dialogue between community leaders and law enforcement
- Facilitated community forums with local and federal law enforcement and community members

CRS Services After a Critical Incident

Charleston, South Carolina

- June 2015
- White supremacist killed 9 African American worshipers at the Emanuel AME Church



Consultation

- Best practices for safe marches and demonstrations



Facilitation

- Facilitated dialogue between community leaders and law enforcement
- Facilitated onsite communication and problem solving between marchers and law enforcement

FORUMS:

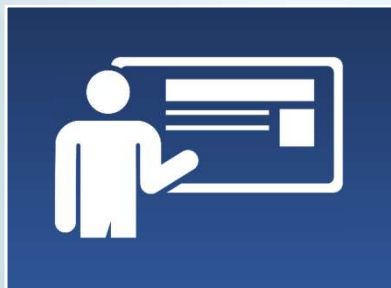


Hate Crimes Forum



Protecting Places of Worship Forum

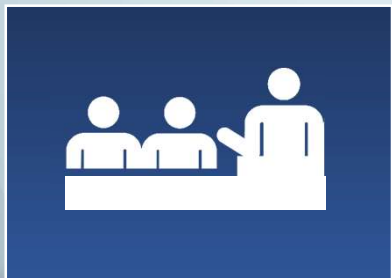
What is a Forum?



A customizable, educational session for concerned citizens to learn how to respond to and prevent hate crimes and bias incidents



Typically 3 hours long



Consists of multiple panel discussions and Q&A sessions with experts, followed by a networking reception

Why Host a Forum in Your Community?

Learn



Prevention techniques

Available resources

Lessons learned

Capacity building/forming
working groups

Connect with



Experts

Interested community members

Prevent and Respond



Bias incidents

Hate crimes

Reporting

What Happens at the Hate Crimes Forum?

	Description	Typical Presenters
Law Enforcement Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Federal, state, local hate crime laws ▶ Hate crime statistics ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ U.S. Attorney's Office ▶ Federal Bureau of Investigation ▶ State Attorney General's Office ▶ Local District Attorney ▶ Local Police Department Hate Crimes Unit or Major Crimes Unit
The Community Speaks Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Challenges communities face when responding to hate crimes and bias incidents ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Community leaders ▶ Civil rights organizations ▶ Victim advocacy organizations
Resources Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Available resources in the aftermath of bias incidents or hate crimes ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Human Relations Commissions ▶ Local government offices that work on hate crime issues ▶ Local, state, or federal law enforcement ▶ Victim's advocates ▶ Local, state, or national civil rights organizations ▶ Jurisdictional community groups

What Happens at the Protecting Places of Worship Forum?

	Description	Possible Presenters
Overview of Hate Crimes Prosecutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Federal, state, local hate crime laws ▶ Hate crime statistics ▶ Case studies of hate crimes that targeted places of worship ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ USAO ▶ Local District Attorney ▶ FBI
Hate Crimes Statistics and Symbols of Hate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Current hate crime statistics ▶ Description of symbols of hate ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ FBI ▶ Non-profit/civil rights groups
Active Shooter Training and Protecting Places of Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Strategies to prepare staff, clergy, and congregants for active shooter situations ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ FBI ▶ Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure ▶ Federal Emergency Management Agency
Protecting Places of Worship Community Panel and Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Lessons learned from faith-based communities ▶ Audience Q&A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Faith communities with experience in this topic

Which Forum is Right For Your Community?

	Hate Crimes Forum	Protecting Places of Worship
Who should attend	Community members who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Have experienced bias incidents or hate crimes of any type ▶ Want to proactively prevent hate crimes from happening locally 	Faith-based leaders and congregations who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Have experienced bias incidents or hate crimes of any type ▶ Want to proactively prevent hate crimes from happening locally
Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Broader discussion of hate crime laws and resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Basic security measures for faith-based members and buildings
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Network with subject matter experts, community members, and law enforcement to share ideas, best practices, and resources to prevent and respond to bias incidents and hate crimes ▶ Identify federal, state, and local resources, programs, and tools to help prevent and respond to bias incidents and hate crimes ▶ Create a local working group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Network with subject matter experts and members of other faith communities to share ideas, best practices, and resources to protect places of worship ▶ Build a faith-based working group to continue to share and work on these issues ▶ Identify federal, state, and local resources, programs, and tools to help protect/secure places of worship ▶ Create a local working group

FACILITATED PROGRAMS:



School-SPIRIT



City-SPIRIT

Student/Site Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together

What is a SPIRIT Program?



Customizable, facilitated program to:

- Identify issues
- Develop solutions
- Improve communications
- Improve relationships/trust
- Minimize the potential for future conflict



Consists of plenary and small group breakout sessions



Usually one full day or two half-days



Results in the creation of a community action plan and a self-sustaining SPIRIT Council to implement solutions developed by community members

Who Are the Primary Groups Involved in the SPIRIT Program?

School-SPIRIT



Student Leaders

- Middle school
- High school
- College

School Personnel

- Administration
- Faculty
- Staff

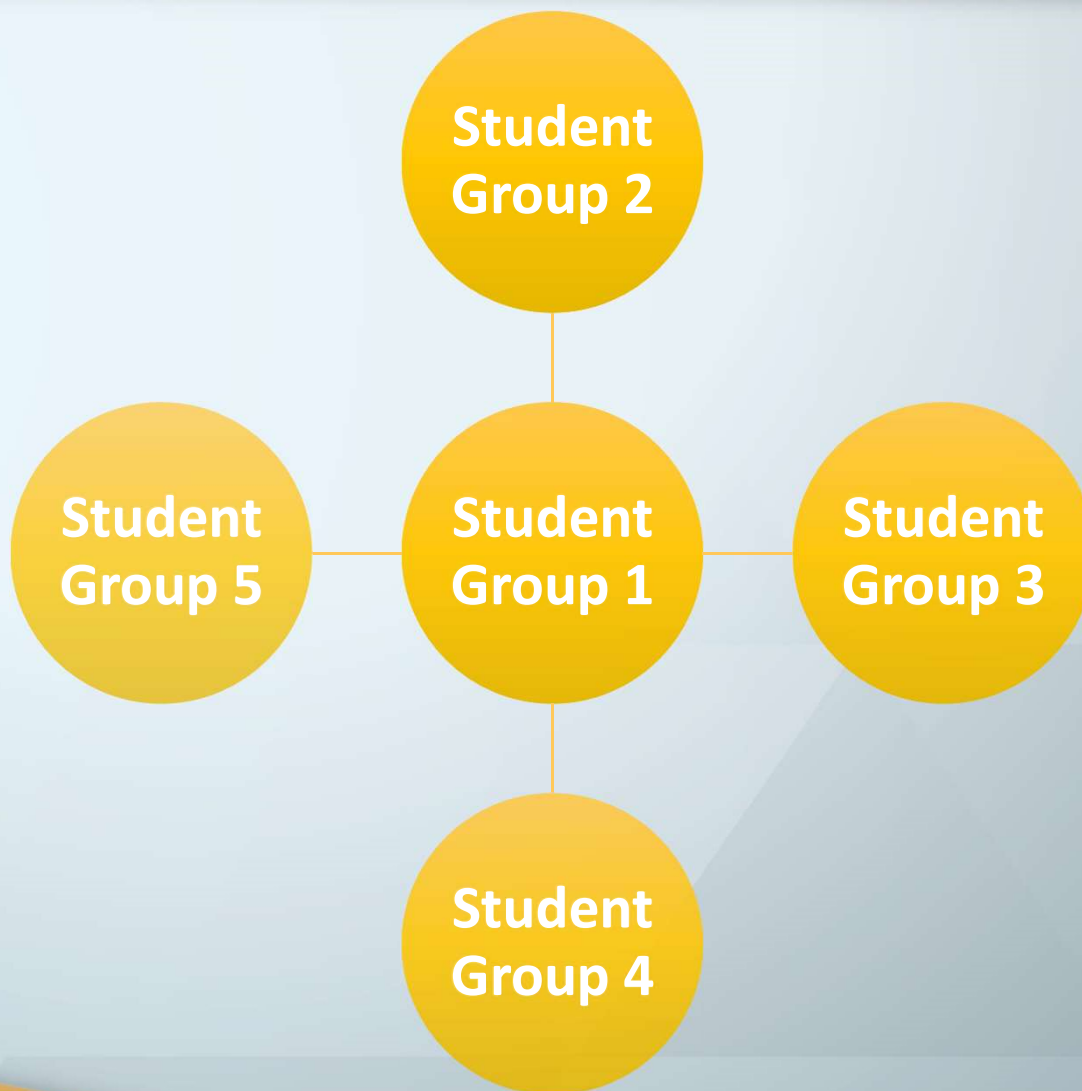
City-SPIRIT



Community Leaders

- Local government
- Law enforcement (LE)
- Interfaith communities
- Civil rights groups
- Community-based organizations (CBO)
- Youth groups

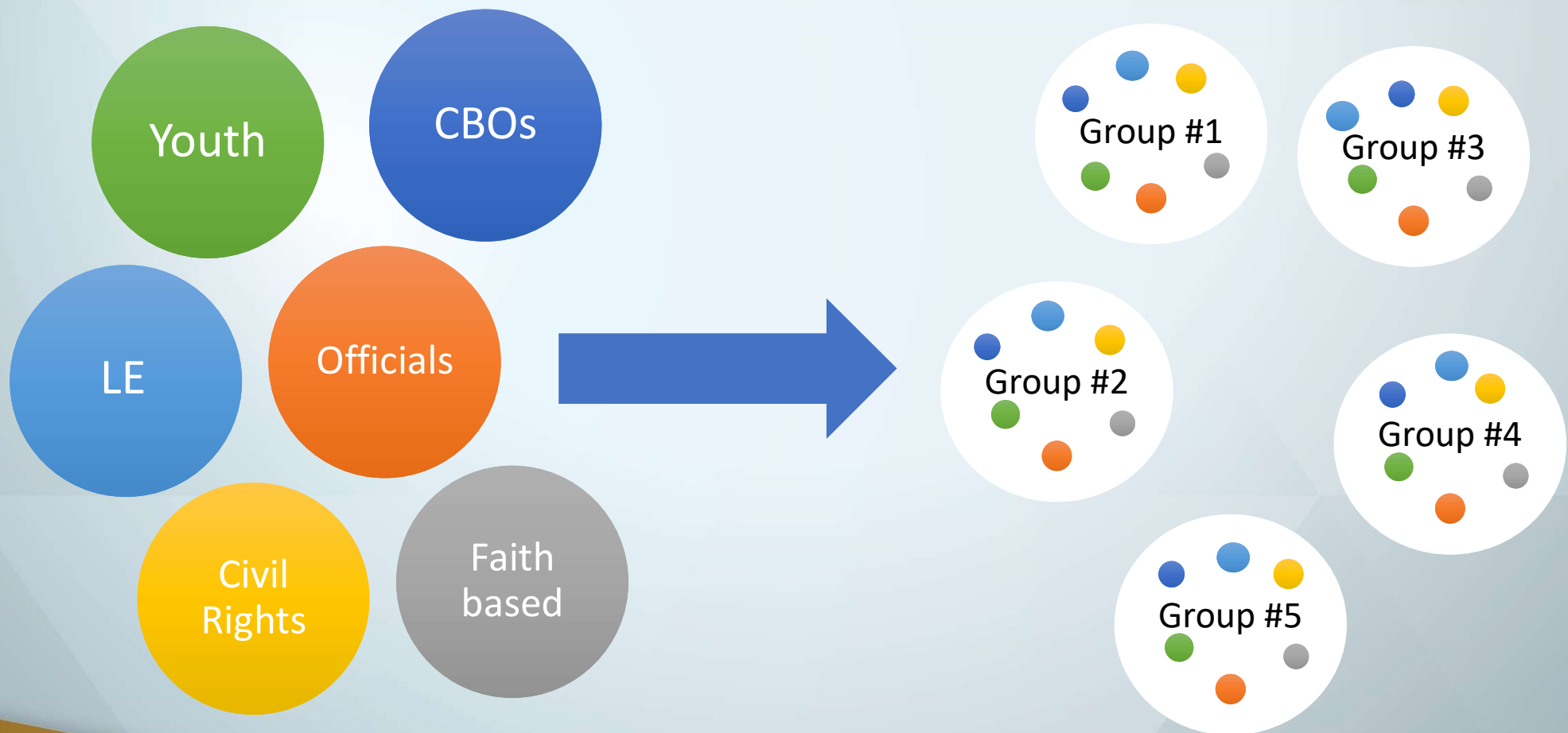
Issues Identification with Like Groups



Issues Identification with Like Groups



Developing Solutions in Mixed Groups



Why Host a SPIRIT Program in Your Community?

Build



Skills

Understanding

Trust

Relationships

Community capacity

Collaborate



Issue identification

Develop solutions and actions

Community action plan

SPIRIT Council

Prevent and Respond



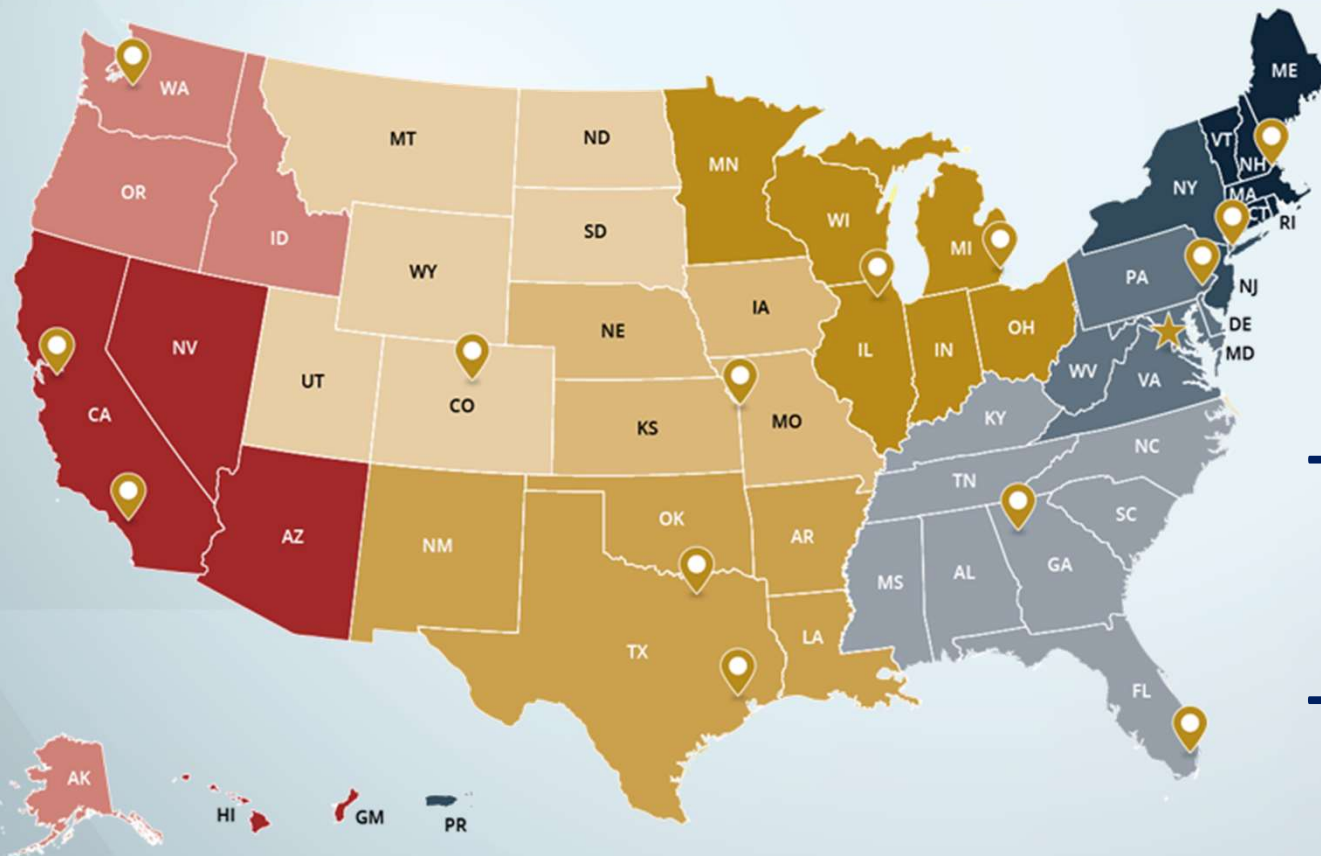
Bias incidents

Hate crimes

Bullying

Critical incident

CRS Regional and Field Office Locations



legend

- New England Regional Office (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI)
- Northeastern Regional Office (NY, NJ, VI, PR)
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)
- Southeastern Regional Office (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)
- Midwestern Regional Office (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
- Central Regional Office (IA, KS, MO, NE)
- Southwestern Regional Office (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
- Rocky Mountain Regional Office (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)
- Northwestern Regional Office (AK, ID, OR, WA)
- Western Regional Office (AZ, CA, GU, HI, NV)
- Regional and Field Office Locations

Regional and Field Offices Contacts (1 of 2)

Office	Address	Telephone and Fax Number
New England Regional Office (Region I) (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI)	408 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 222 Boston, MA 02110	T: (617) 424-5715 F: (617) 424-5727
Northeastern Regional Office (Region II) (NY, NJ, VI, PR)	26 Federal Plaza, Suite 36-118 New York, NY 10278	T: (212) 264-0700 F: (212) 264-2143
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (Region III) (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)	200 2nd & Chestnut Street, Suite 208 Philadelphia, PA 19106	T: (215) 597-2344 F: (215) 597-9148
Southeastern Regional Office (Region IV) (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)	61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 7B65 Atlanta, GA 30303	T: (404) 331-6883 F: (404) 331-4471
Southeastern Field Office	51 SW First Ave., Ste. 624 Miami, FL 33130	T: (305)536-5206 F: (305)536-6778
Midwestern Regional Office (Region V) (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)	230 South Dearborn Street, Room 2130 Chicago, Illinois 60604	T: (312) 353-4391 F: (312) 353-4390
Midwestern Field Office	211 West Fort St., Ste. 1404 Detroit, MI 48226	T: (313)226-4010 F: (313)226-2568

Email us at askcrs@usdoj.gov for Regional and Field Offices

Regional and Field Offices Contacts (2 of 2)

Office	Address	Telephone and Fax Number
Southwestern Regional Office (Region VI) (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)	Hardwood Center Building, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 2050, Dallas, TX 75201	T: (214) 655-8175 F: (214) 655-8184
Southwestern Field Office	515 Rusk Avenue, Suite 12605 Houston, TX 77002	T: (713) 718-4861 F: (713) 718-4862
Central Regional Office (Region VII) (IA, KS, MO, NE)	601 E. 12th Street, Suite 0802 Kansas City, MO 64106	T: (816) 426-7434 F: (816) 426-7441
Rocky Mountain Regional Office (Region VIII) (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)	1244 Speer Boulevard., Suite 650 Denver, CO 80204-3584	T: (303) 844-2973 F: (303) 844-2907
Western Regional Office (Region IX) (AZ, CA, GU, HI, NV)	888 South Figueroa Street, Suite 2010 Los Angeles, CA 90017	T: (213) 894-2941 F: (213) 894-2880
Western Field Office	90 Seventh Street, Suite 3-300 San Francisco, CA 94103	T: (415) 744-6565 F: (415) 744-6590
Northwestern Regional Office (Region X) (AK, ID, OR, WA)	915 Second Avenue, Suite 1808 Seattle, WA 98174	T: (206) 220-6700 F: (206) 220-6706

Email us at askcrs@usdoj.gov for Regional and Field Offices

Connect With Us

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Questions



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